

## Recreational Opportunities

Bird Watching – Bicycling – Fishing - Hiking – Hunting - Outdoor Photography

*Conservation areas are closed from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. except for authorized camping, fishing and hunting activities.*

- No littering.
- No fireworks.
- No open fires. Pitted fires only in designated areas.
- No free-running pets. Dogs must be leashed or confined when not being trained or used for hunting.
- Destroying, cutting or removing vegetation is prohibited. Nuts, berries, fruits, mushrooms and wild greens may be taken for personal consumption only.
- Motor vehicles are restricted to roadways and parking areas.
- Bicycles are allowed only on trails designated for their use and on roads and trails open to vehicular traffic, unless otherwise posted.
- Camping is prohibited.
- Swimming, sailboarding, scuba diving, water skiing, target shooting, rappelling, water skiing, paint-balling or skateboarding are not allowed.

## Fishing and Boating

*Fishing is permitted under statewide regulations. The following special regulations also apply:*

- On lakes and ponds, fishing is permitted under statewide regulations. Other restrictions may apply to specific ponds, lakes and stream segments.
- Fish may be taken only by pole and line, and no more than three poles and lines may be used by any one person.
- On impounded waters, daily limits are 2 black bass, 4 catfish in the aggregate (channel, blue and flathead) and 30 crappie. All other fish taken may not exceed a combined total of 20.
- All black bass less than 18 inches in total length must be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught.
- Bullfrogs and green frogs may be taken during the statewide season only by hand, handnet, atlatl, gig, bow, snagging, snaring, grabbing, pole and line, a twenty-two (.22) caliber or smaller rimfire rifle or pistol, pellet gun, or crossbow, only on waters and within dates and hours those waters are open to fishing.
- Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles, is prohibited on all impounded waters and their discharge channels.

- Boats may be used for fishing and wildlife-related activities only and may not be stored or left unattended overnight.
- Electric motors only are allowed.

## Hunting and Trapping

*Area is open to hunting under statewide regulations. The following special regulations also apply:*

- Deer may be hunted only with archery and muzzle-loading methods. All other statewide seasons and limits apply. Deer and turkey regulations are subject to annual changes. refer to the Spring Turkey or Fall Deer and Turkey booklets for current regulations.
- Only portable tree stands may be placed or used and only between Sept. 1 and Jan. 31. Each stand must be identified with the name and address or conservation number of the user and must be removed from the area by Feb. 1. Use of nails or other materials that would damage the tree is prohibited.
- Trail and game cameras are prohibited.
- Decoys and portable blinds are permitted but must be removed from the area daily. Blinds may be constructed on-site, but only from willows and non-woody vegetation.
- Trapping of furbearers is permitted only as specifically authorized by special use permit.

### For local information, contact:

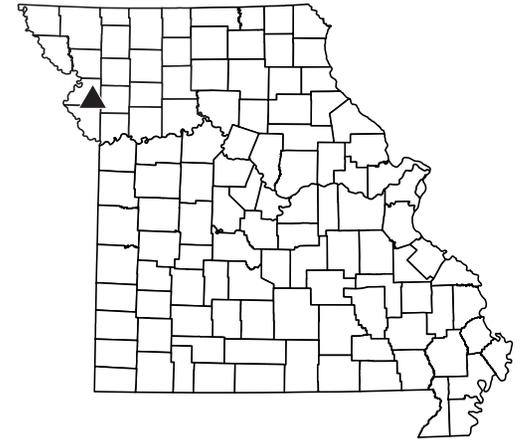
Department of Conservation  
701 James McCarthy Drive  
St. Joseph, MO 64507-2298  
816/271-3100

11/2021

(Regulations are from the Wildlife Code of Missouri and selected statutes of the State of Missouri. Special area regulations are in Chapter 11 of the Wildlife Code. A free printed copy of the Wildlife Code, which lists most area regulations, is available from the Conservation Department. Chapter 11 in its entirety is available at [www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/3csr/3csr.asp](http://www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/3csr/3csr.asp).) Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Missouri Department of Conservation is available to all individuals without regard to their race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. Questions should be directed to the Department of Conservation, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102, (573) 751-4115 (voice) or 800-735-2966 (TTY), or to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Federal Assistance, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop: MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203.

# Belcher Branch

## CONSERVATION AREA



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION